THEN and NOW!

By Frances H. Paulette

Conclusion

One Of A Kind

"Lum" pauses for a picture before getting down to work at his roll-top desk.

"The Town Clown".....that's a name that William A. "Lum" Edwards has given himself since moving to Appomatox in 1975. I have found out during our recent talks that there is a lot more to "Lum" than being a clown. If, however, he wants to think of himself that way, we won't argue. There is another title that "Lum" acquired as a boy; this one he earned the hard way!

Born and reared in the hills of Carrol County, Va., "Lum" was exposed at a very early age to the business of 'hog-killing.'

Hog-killing used to be a regular part of country living and according to some people, just about anyone (with enough nerve(could do the killing, but when it came to rendering the fat from the hogs into usable lard, it took a certain amount of horse-sense and know-how....-Hill-Billy 'Lum" had both.

As a youth Edwards earned the reputation of "Official Lard-Maker" of his community.

"Lum" knew that the fire under the big, black pot in the back yard had to be just right...hot enough, but not too hot. He knew just how long to cook the fat; when "Lum" made lard, it was exactly right. Nothing but the best!

"Whew!", said "Lum" as he recalled those days. "That stuff smelled to high heaven. Took a fellow a week or more to get the dad-blamed scent out of his system!"

"Lum" recalled his grandmother's method of doctoring.....she made her own remedy. For as long as "Lum" could remember, she kept a bottle of her 'Remedy' hidden in an old blanket chest in her home. "Lum" has the chest, beautifully refinished, in his side of the basement of his home.

His side? Of Course! "Lum" has half of the basement as his own special place and the other half is a conventional family room.

When the Edwards built their home just a short while back, "Lum" decided it was high time for him to have his own quarters in which to "Do His Thing." What is 'that thing'? Not one but many...-that "Town Clown" has varied talents and a great many interests.

Among "Lum's" collection of over 600 straight razors is a matched set of razors made in France. Handsomely designed with ivory handles, the set of seven razors has one for each day of the week and the handles are inscribed accordingly.

Wonder just what kind of shave a fellow would have gotten if he had used Monday's razor on a Thursday?

Did you know that there was a group of razors known as the Transition Razors? These are from the period in history when the manufacture of safety razors was just beginning but straight razors were still favored among the gentlemen of that day. Designed with straight razor handles, they had a safety type blade that was removable.

Upon entering a barber shop back THEN, your eyes might be drawn to an impressive array of mugs displayed in a 'mug rack.' "Lum" has an old mug rack filled with a variety of unusually beautiful mugs. I found it a bit surprising that so many of the mugs were designed with flowers, leaves, or even figures in delicate colors. They seemed more like something to be found in the boudir of a very discriminating lady of 'by-gone' days.

For every customer, the barber of early times had a mug; never, under any circumstances, did a good barber use one gentleman's mug for another customer. In many instances the name of the gentleman was part of the mug design. According to "Lum", the average price of a really good mug was $2.00

"Lum" has a vast storehouse of knowledge concerning razors and anything to do with barbering in the early days. In some instances, he has made detailed notes that are listed alphabetically in a notebook. Doesn't sound like the work of a 'Clown', does it?)

"Lum" and Catherine Edwards are members of Highland Heights Baptist Church in Lynchburg and "Lum" holds membership in two Masonic Lodges, Monroe 301 and Hillsville 193.

On the mantle of the rock fireplace in "Lum's" quarters, there is a collection of porcelain beagles. As he talked about his love of beagles, he told me that he had owned and operated a breeding-training kennel, -Lumline, when he had lived in Carrol County, Va.

Over an old refinished roll-top desk I noticed a bow displayed; he admitted to having participated in archery to the point of shooting in tournaments.

Through study at night school and correspondence schools, "Lum" has completed three years work toward a degree in civil engineering and he is an accompolished draftsman. Add to these talents, gun-making; he is now in the process of making a gun from a kit.

When "Lum" Edwards isn't working on his collection of razors, mugs or cookbooks (That's right...he collects them too!), or refinishing furniture, you might find him 'just sitting' and listening to music. He told me that he often plays his favorite records for hours at a time. Takes a lot of listening for "Lum", but not much sleep. He insists there are too many interesting things to do to waste time sleeping.

"Lum" Edwards is a collector....of things and of knowledge. I asked him why he didn't write a book about the early days of barbering and he thought a minute before he answered.

"Well, hon, I've thought about writing a book; the Lord knows I've got enough stuff in this ole head of mine to write a book, but I don't know whether I'd know just how to write it down."

Don't you worry "Lum" about writing it down........just write it, people will love it!

Although "Lum" would do anything for a friend and even a casual acquaintence, he often seems to try to give the impression that he is totally uncomcerned. For example, the way he gave his wife Catherine her engagement ring.

The couple had made plans to be married but had not made it public when Catherine became ill and had to enter the hospital for surgery. While she was a patient in the hospital, "Lum" presented her with a diamond ring as a token of their engagement. Later, in telling his children about it, he said, "Aw shucks, I just gave it to her because I felt sorry for her; over there in that old hospital and all that stuff. That's all twas."

O.K. "Lum" Edwards, you old Hill-Billy, just pretend you don't care about people, but I know better than that. You do care, about old friends and new acquaintences.....you just care about people! And...that my friend, is what makes you special!

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Zion Baptist

A large crowd of members and friends attended the regular preaching service at the Zion Baptist Church at 11 a.m. Sunday. The Rev. Charles Lewis of Madison Heights, Virginia was guest speaker for the hour. Rev. Lewis delivered the sermon on the theme, "No Easy Way." All present enjoyed the challenging message. Those visiting churches from White Oak Grove, Mt. Plesant, Gravel Hill. The seniors rendered beautiful music with Mr. Howard Allen the pianist. The male chorus of the Zion Baptist rendered several selections. The offering was very good. Our hearts were saddened when word came that our friend and loved one Mrs. Mildred Wheeler passed away Saturday night at the Virginia Baptist Hospital. She will be greatly missed. Deepest sympathy is extended to the family. Funeral willb e announced later. The Ladies Aid of the Zion Baptist Church will meet next Sunday at 2 p.m. at Mrs. Magonila Franklin, Mrs. Julia Terry will be the hostess.

Mr and Mrs. Sherman Jennings and family from Washington, D. C. visited his parents recently. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Jennings Miss Mary C Brown is on the sick list. Dea. Ross Edwards is now home from hospital improving.

Rev. Bobby Jones will preach at the Zion Baptist Church the third Sunday in February at 11 a.m.

The Deaconess of the Zion Baptist Church had its third Anniversary Sunday at 3 p.m. Mrs. Etta Edwards served as MC.

Opening song by senior choir, scripture by Rev. Watson, Prayer by Rev. H. O. Flood, Song by Senior choir, Welcome by Mrs. G W. Wiggins, Respond by, Mrs. Mary Robertson, Song by Senior Choir, History by Mrs. Wiggins, Song by choir, Guest Speaker for the hour Rev. Watson, Solo by Mrs. Watson, Offering by Mrs. Nannie Johnson, Mrs. Wilson Jones, Mrs. Margaret Franklin, Announcements, Remarks, Closing.

The Men's Club will have its 36th Anniversary February 25 at 2:30 p.m. The Rev. E. R. Berryan Sr. of Lynchburg, Virginia and Senior Choir willbe our guest along with several singing groups.

Mrs. Susie Hunter and Barbara visited Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Marshall and Miss Thelma Hamlett Sunday at Brookneal.

READ THE CLASSIFIED ADS

Assigned to Army Exhibit Unit

ALEXANDRIA, VA. (AHTNC) Jan. 30....Sgt. Dennis W. Hamlette, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Browder Jr., Appomattox, Va., recently was assigned to the Army Exhibit Unit, Alexandria, Va.

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"The South 40"
by JAMES A. SMITH
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Statistics can get pretty sticky, but they tell us that we can expect a pretty serious drought one out of every four years. This isn't to say that during the other three we won't experience times when plants need a good drink of water.

Trickle irrigation isn't really new technology -- but it is new to this part of the country. It is a fairly inexpensive method of irrigating the vegetable gardens and other high income crops. When I say inexpensive, I'm talking in terms of water source, amount of water actually used, energy requirement and cost of application equipment.

We want to introduce you to this new concept Monday, February 19, 2:30 p.m., and a repeat at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be in this office.

Trickle irrigation can work off the home water system --- so i'ts something for most everyone.

* * *

Don't forget the series of indepth Estate planning meeting coming up -- February 22, March 1, March 8 and March 15. The program is from 7:00 to 9:15 p.m. on these four Thursday evenings. Dr. Wayne Burkhart, Agricultural Economist, will make the presentations.

* * *

The care and maintenance of our nation's soil and water first came into focus during the Dust Bowl days of the early '30's. We hear it talked about and mentally say to ourselves, "It's a good thing." "Nothing to worry about." "Everybody knows about it."

Strange as it may seem, this really isn't the situation. During the midst of the dust bowl in 1934, the yearly soil loss was three billion tons. A recent report out of Iowa State says we are currently losing four billion tons annually. Now, I don't understand these big numbers -- so what the report is really saying is that we are losing 9 tons per acre per year. That's at a rate faster than soil is being made. This leads to a pretty simple statement -- if we haven't learned anything else, we've learned how to exploit our natural resources -- the soil and water.

Someone has described Earth as follows: Below the top soil with its throng of micro-organisms lies a plant as barren as the moon.

Listening to Congressman Ed Jones, Tennessee, address this issue last week, he said, "Non-point conservation must be voluntary -- but it must begin."

He pointed out that farm congressmen are outnumbered in about the same way as other facets of the population to farmers -- 10:1.

Some suggestions to encourage conservation might include one or more of the following: Federal Income Tax incentives for those that conduct proper practices: Premium for price supports, farm labor -- insurance or set-up a conservation trust fund similar to the highway trust fund.

* * *

This all leads me to ask -- have you taken those soil samples yet? Do you know how much lime and fertilizer you'll need for this year's crops? What plans have been made to re-establish legumes in hay and pastures this year?

PRECIPITATION:

This month	.07
Month of January	4.90
Normal for January	2.76

St. Anne's Represented At Trinity Institute

The Rev. and Mrs. Harmon Smith attended the annual Trinity Institute in New York City last week. The Institute dealt with the ever recurring theological problem of the myth/truth of the Incarnation of our Lord Jesus Christ. This most recent revival of the debate was sparked by the publication in England of two books entitled **The Myth of the Incarnation** and **The Truth of the Incarnation.**

Papers were presented by three well known Anglican theologians: Don Cupitt, "The Jesus of Faith and the Christ of History"; John Macquarrie, "The Humility of God"; and Michael Marshall, "The Person of Christ in the Experience of the Church."

One paper was presented by a well known Roman Catholic theologian Jon Sobrino entitled "The Pursuit of Jesus and the Faith in Christ".

photo by George C. Ramey

Calvin Massie

Clark Gable Look-Alike To Help Promote New Book

This Sunday the attention of the nation's TV viewers will once again focus on the immortal film classic, "Gone With The Wind." But before Calvin Massie, Virginia's own Clark Gable, tunes in to watch the "king", he will travel to Atlanta, Georgia where he will help Mr. Herb Bridges promote a new book he co-authored with William Pratt titled "Scarlett Fever".

"Scarlett Fever" is a superb documentary on the making of "Gone With The Wind" and is certainly a must for the avid "Gone With The Wind" fan. Mr. Massie will join Herb Bridges, owner of the world's largest "Gone With The Wind" memoribilia collection, at Rich's, one of Atlanta's largest department stores. There they will introduce the pubiic to the new book.

Because of the remarkable resemblence between Mr. Massie and the late silver screen idol, the people of Atlanta should be quite surprised when their visitor arrives.

Mr. Massie is employed by the Armstrong Furniture Company here in Appomattox where he works as an Industrial Engineering Associate.

Hawaiian Tour Being Planned

Mildred Gaines of Appomattox has been invited by Wilcox World Tours to host an 8-day and 7-night tour to Hawaii leaving on June 19, 1979. Mrs. Gaines and her friends will travel by United Airlines Charter from Richmond to Honolulu, Hawaii and stay at the best Sheraton Hotels on Waikiki Beach.

The group will enjoy such sights as Pearl Harbor Cruise, Polynesian Cultural Center, Kodak Hula Show, Pineapple Farms, Hawaiian Volcanoes National Park, Punchbowl Cemetery, and many other beautiful attractions on these "Islands of Paradise."

For further information, you may contact Mrs. Gaines at Gaines Jewelers or by calling 352-7293 or 352-8804.

FILE FOLDERS: File Cabinets, Office Desk, Office Chairs, Pens, Pencils and almost everything else you need for your office. The Times Virginian - Phone 352-8215.

Bloodmobile Visit January 29th A Big Success

Thanks to our students, regular donors, new donors and many old timers who had not been to donate for some years (way back in 1970), we were able to go over our quota by two units.

We had 14 new donors, (August 29th we had 16) so let's try to top this number next visit.

Our first time donors were Margaret Garber, Loretta Webb, Perry McCraw, Arthur L. Ketchersid, Charles Rice, Cynthia Roach, George M. Powell, David Stratton, Donna Hodges, James G. Pugh, James A. Lucado, Diane Fulcher, Virginia Ann Fulcher and Lelia Garrett.

Donors receiving pins were: Helen Johnson Pierce, 2 gallon; James E. Ryan, 3 gallon; Eleanor T. Stratton, 3 gallon; and 1 gallon pins went to Lynn Martin Lucado and Ruth Barbara Carr.

I know YOU are as proud as I am that our county is 100% again. I knew we could do it and the bloodmobile visit on a Monday was good because the people made it so. Our next visit will be on April 5th which falls on a Thursday. Mark your calendar now and make plans to come so our next visit will again be successful.

Thanks also to our many workers, without them our bloodmobile could not function, and to our canteen hostesses. A complete list of all workers and canteen personnel will be listed at the end of our fiscal year.

Alice C. Martin
Chm. Blood Services Program

CONCORD

Service Concord Volunteer Fire Department rendered during recent power out - Firemen took generators to different homes and built up freezers so frozen food wouldn't spoil, pumped out basements, cut trees and cleared power lines so power could be restored. Yes Concord VFD did all this to render service to the community besides answering fire calls. So thanks to all those men who volunteered their time and energy and gave their service to the community.

PAMPLIN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MENU

Thurs., Feb. 8 - Bologna, green blackeye peas, baked tomato, apple sauce, biscuits, milk.

Fri., Feb. 9 - Chicken salad, buttered corn, turnip greens, sliced tomato, rolls, butter, milk.

Mon., Feb. 12 - Hamburgers, green beans, buttered whole potatoes, peanuts, milk, cookie.

Tues., Feb. 13 - Spaghetti, tossed salad, strawberry short cake, potato tots, biscuits, milk.

Wed., Feb. 14 - Ham, green beans, candied sweet poatoes, pineapple upside down cake, rolls, butter, milk.

Thurs., Feb. 15 - Slice turkey, whipped potatoes, green lima beans, fruit, rolls, milk.

Fri., Feb. 16 - Batter dip fish, green beans, buttered corn, jello w/fruit, cookie, milk, cornbread, butter.

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ANN REYNOLDS ATTENDS SCHOOL

Ann M. Reynolds of Scott Insurance attended a Commercial Casualty Institute at the University of Virginia this week.

The Institute, sponsored by The Professional Insurance Agents Association of Virginia and the District of Columbia, is being held Feb. 1 through 3 at the School of Continuing Education on the University's campus.

The 55 agents, from Virginia and the District of Columbia, will be learning more about several areas of insurance and how to better help their clients in these areas. The subjects are Commercial Automobile and Worker's Compensation, taught by Robert L. Acklen, CPCU, of Dallas, Texas; excess and surplus markets and crime insurance taught by Jerome J. Harris, CPCU, J.D., of L. E. Harris Agency in Washington, D.C. and general liability and garage liability, taught by Richard A. Winchester, CPCU, of Jamestown, New York.

This Institute is a part of the Certified Insurance Counselor (CIC) program, which consists of four studies with compreensive examinations an agent must successfully complete in order to receive the CIC designation.

The program is three years old, and Virginia had only 35 agents who have received the designation. The District of Columbia has only two agents who have received the designation, and there are about 1,500 in the United States.

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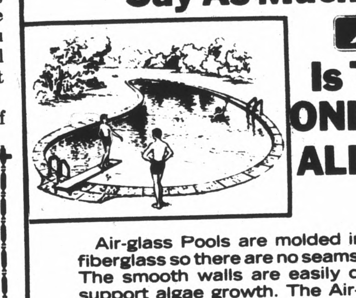

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